

Executive Registry

65-5772

14 August 1962

Honorable John W. McCormack  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

This letter transmits for the consideration of the Congress a proposed amendment to the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended. The proposed bill permits the Agency to improve its retirement program by authorizing the establishment of a retirement system corresponding to that of the Foreign Service. The Central Intelligence Agency needs to attract and retain a force of highly motivated careerists who are intensively trained in unique skills. However, the Agency is unable in fact to provide full-term careers for many individual officers. In order to minimize the adverse effects of necessary programs of managed attrition and to preserve its ability to recruit and retain the high caliber personnel it needs, the Agency must make reasonable provision for the future of those individuals who must be separated before completing a full-term career of thirty or so years. Therefore, Section 3 of the proposed bill adds a new paragraph (g) to Section 5 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, authorizing the Director of Central Intelligence to exercise the authority available to the Secretary of State under the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as amended, in order to establish a retirement and disability system corresponding to that available to Foreign Service Officers for a limited number of Agency employees.

Since all provisions pertaining to the retirement of Foreign Service Officers are not contained in a single Title of the Foreign Service Act and since it is possible that future amendments relating to retirement may occur elsewhere than in Title VIII, which is entitled "The Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System," it is necessary to make general provision for the Director of Central Intelligence to adopt provisions of law applicable to Foreign Service Officers for Agency employees. Additionally, most of the basic travel allowances and overseas benefits available to Foreign Service personnel are authorized for Agency employees by existing Section 4 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended. However, amendments to the Foreign Service Act over the years have of necessity required the Agency to seek legislation periodically in order to keep such authorities up to date and uniform with those available to Foreign Service personnel. Consequently, it is now proposed that the existing Section 4 of the Central Intelligence

Agency Act be rescinded by Section 2 of the proposed bill. In lieu of the rescinded authorities, the new Section 4 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act authorizes the Director to adopt and apply to Agency employees provisions of law applicable to Foreign Service personnel and to exercise with respect to Agency Employees the authority available to the Secretary of State for the purpose of having Agency Employees accorded appropriate benefits, rights, and allowances now authorized for Foreign Service Officers.

We consider enactment of the proposed bill to be essential to the effective performance of our mission and would appreciate early and favorable consideration. The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of the proposed bill to the Congress from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

John A. McCone  
Director

Enclosure

A BILL

To amend the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Central Intelligence Agency Act Amendments of 1962."

Sec. 2. Section 4 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and the heading thereto is amended to read as follows:

"Officer and Employee Allowances and Benefits

"Sec. 4. In the performance of the functions of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director is authorized:

(a) to adopt or apply to officers and employees of the Agency such provisions regarding officer and employee allowances and benefits, as he may determine to be necessary and appropriate, of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as heretofore or hereafter amended, and of any other law pertaining specifically, or generally applicable, to Foreign Service officers, Foreign Service reserve officers, and Foreign Service staff officers and employees;

(b) to exercise with respect to officers and employees of the Agency such authorities, as he may determine to be necessary and appropriate, available to the Secretary of State under provisions of any such laws in order to make available to Agency officers and employees similar benefits, rights, privileges, and allowances authorized thereunder;

(c) to prescribe regulations for the granting of officer and employee allowances and benefits and for the exercise of the authorities set forth in this section."

Sec. 3. Section 5 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, is amended by the addition of a new paragraph (g) as follows:

"(g) Under such regulations as the Director may prescribe the Director is authorized to exercise the authority available to the Secretary of State with respect to the establishment of a retirement and disability system under the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as heretofore or hereafter amended, in order to establish a corresponding retirement and disability system for such individuals and classes or groups of Agency officers and employees as he may designate from time to time."